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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5446

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 000684

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR WHA/CCA AND WHA/PDA

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: EMBASSY GUATEMALA FOLLOW-UP MAY 21 - DAY OF
SOLIDARITY WITH THE CUBAN PEOPLE

REF: SECSTATE 51536

Embassy Guatemala placed an editorial under Ambassador Derham's name in leading Guatemalan newspaper "Prensa Libre" on May 21 in commemoration of the Day of Solidarity with the Cuban People. Pol/Econ Counselor, drawing on his previous experience as PAO Havana, discussed the plight of Cuban political prisoners, the dissident movement, and economic and human rights conditions in Cuba on "La Primera Hora," one of Guatemala's most popular radio talk shows. "La Primera Hora" invited the Cuban Embassy to respond during the live program, but the Cuban Embassy declined to do so. Pol/Econ Counselor also covered the same topics during a roundtable with newspaper journalists from "El Periodico," "Siglo XXI," and "Diario de Centro America."
Derham